

# Dominion Presbyterian

\$1.50 Per Annum.

OTTAWA

Single Copies 5 Cents

## NOTE AND COMMENT

Butterflies are frequently found high up on mountain sides, lying frozen on the snow, so brittle that they break unless carefully handled. Such frozen butterflies, on being taken to a warmer climate recover themselves and fly away. Six species of butterflies have been found within a few hundred miles of the North Pole.

An earnest campaign against Sunday liquor selling is being carried on in Montreal by the Liquor License Commission. On a recent Sunday the private detectives found seven saloon keepers selling liquor, and next day they all pleaded guilty. In one barroom they found sixty men and four bartenders serving them.

Great Britain's newest cruiser the *Indomitable*, in her speed trials, has beaten all records, making twenty-eight knots on a measured mile on the Clyde and twenty-six and one-quarter knots in the continuous steaming trial. This is the war ship that will convey the Prince of Wales and suite to the tercentenary celebration at Quebec in July.

The New York Examiner, Baptist, does not relish the idea of the proposed visit of Rev. R. J. Campbell to the United States. He has been engaged to speak at this year's Chautauquan and other more or less religious gatherings. "He has no new message, and the message that he has is of no profit to any one. We have enough deniers of the divinity of our Lord and of the authority of Holy Scripture of our own without importing them from abroad."

Statistics for the year of the Church of Scotland are very favourable. There is an increase in Church members of 3,509, totalling 702,075. In contributions to general church funds an increase of £6,423, and in ordinary collections an increase of £2,844. Through the munificence of Lord Mountstephen there is an increase of £18,000 in local endowments. The most gratifying feature is a substantial increase in the number of communicants.

Much publicity, favorable and otherwise, has been given to Dr. John Pringle's campaign for purity in the Yukon, and it is of interest to note what Rev. I. O. Stringer, Anglican Bishop of the Yukon, says about it: "The question is very acute, particularly at the present time when an enquiry is being made. I know Dr. Pringle personally, and I will say this for him that he is perfectly familiar with conditions there, and there must be a large amount of truth in what he says."

Andrew Carnegie entertains optimistic views in regard to the question of ultimate universal peace. The Peace Society of the City of New York held its annual meeting last week at Hotel Astor with two hundred men and women present. Mr. Carnegie presiding. It seems that some of the speakers had expressed rather discouraging views of the peace prospect, which brought from Mr. Carnegie the rejoinder that instead of groaning over what had not been done toward peace, the members of the society should rejoice over what had been done. Speakers were apt to overlook what had been accomplished in the past in their eager desire to do too much in the future.

The Presbyterian Church in Australia now consists of 450 congregations, with 417 settled ministers, 43 ministers-emeriti, and 44 ministers without charge. The communicants number 55,209, out of an estimated Presbyterian population of 455,000, or only one in every eight. On the other hand, the church has 57 young men studying for her ministry, an unusually large proportion.

The Rev. Dr. James Muir, for thirty-four years minister of Egremont Presbyterian Church, Cheshire, died on Saturday in his eighty-first year. A native of Paisley, he was educated at Glasgow University, and entered the ministry of the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland. After several years' pastoral work in Falkirk, he undertook in 1865 the oversight of a new congregation at Egremont, which, under his vigorous preaching and zealous care, rapidly increased in membership and influence.

At one of the May meetings in London Dr. Campbell Morgan created something of a sensation at the beginning of his speech by questioning their utility. He thought that a great deal of self-congratulation which takes place at them over what has been done ought to be changed to lamentations over what has not been done. He filled what he described as an old-fashioned office of the Methodist Church, that of an exhorter, with passionate eloquence.

Now that it is known everywhere that in the recent furore over the enforcement of the Lord's Day Act in Winnipeg, that (1) all the Alliance asked for was the impartial and reasonable enforcement of the law, and (2) that the Alliance did not give information nor make complaint in one single case, the people are placing the responsibility for the fake cases where it rightly belongs. And to-day, when the reasonableness of the law has been demonstrated, it is looked upon by the people as an admirable law.

Conditions throughout Corea are improving. The determination of Prince Ito, resident general at Chimpulpo to suppress the disorderly elements, so that the peaceful farming population may prosecute their work in the outlying districts where armed bands are harassing the farms and villages, is shown by the prompt arrival of reinforcements of gendarmes, numbering about five thousand who will be scattered throughout Corea. Prince Ito has issued strict instructions to Japanese soldiers and civilians that they must not treat the Coreans as a conquered people, but the rights of all law-abiding citizens must be respected under penalty of severe punishment.

Of the general situation in China and the future of the country Sir Robert Hart, for many years inspector-general of the customs at Peking, says that the sentiment in favor of excluding foreigners is growing. The customs are now under native control. He expresses his belief in the sincerity of the Dowager Empress in her efforts for the abolition of the opium traffic and says that China has about given up the idea that it is possible to settle disputes by an appeal to reason and is now determined to have a large army and navy. He is convinced that China will cease to be helpless in the hands of the western nations and will become a nation of power and of great international influence.

A correspondent of the British Weekly writing on the recent meeting of the English Presbyterian Synod, says: Newcastle is giving a right hearty welcome to the members of Synod, many of whom are delighted to find themselves "living, moving, and having their being," in a genuine Presbyterian atmosphere. John Knox, the great Scottish reformer, was the founder of Novocastrian Presbyterianism, and one of the churches (the Moderator's) is fittingly named after him. Since the Synod last met in Newcastle, the number of communicant members within the Presbytery has increased from 12,498 to 14,083.

The "Interior" of Chicago, declares that Foreign Missions ought not to go on much longer. And why? It says:—"The Foreign Mission business of Christendom is to set up in each country a native church that will preach the Gospel steadily year in and year out until the nation is won to Christ—not by foreigners, but by its own sons. Foreign Missions represent a transient stage in the growth of the Kingdom of God. In the long run each nation must be converted by a ministry native to its own soil. It has taken a good deal of missionary experience to make this clear, but there are few mission workers who doubt it now. They foresee in every nation a time when every foreign missionary will have returned to the land from which he came out and the propagation of the message of Christ will be left wholly to native tongues and native zeal."

Says the New York Christian Advocate: The Methodists who are in debt for their churches are sometimes reminded of the supposed fact that Roman Catholics never run in debt. At the present time Saint Patrick's Cathedral, on Fifth Avenue, New York, owes \$400,000, of which \$350,000 is on mortgage. There are 120 Roman Catholic churches in Manhattan and the Bronx, this city. Of these more than one hundred have not been consecrated because they have mortgage debts upon them. There are twenty churches which have mortgage debts exceeding \$100,000 each. The Paulist Church property has a debt of \$216,000. Their proportion of debt to property valuation in this city is higher by far than that of any other religious body. As a rule, it is impossible for societies to raise all the money before a church is finished: still excessive debt should never be intentionally incurred.

Those who have been disposed to minimize the seriousness of the existing unrest in India and to hold that conditions were not such as to justify any real alarm upon the part of the British authorities, may find reason to revise their forecast. It is of course impossible to foretell what is likely to take place or what character the expression of anti-British sentiment in India will assume. But there can be little doubt that the revolutionary spirit is widespread and growing in intensity. What has occurred within the past few days in Calcutta, where some thirty persons have been arrested in connection with a plot to murder Europeans by means of bombs, has naturally excited some consternation. Documents seized at the house where the bombs and explosives were being manufactured reveal that it was part of the plot to kill Lord Kitchener, Commander-in-Chief of the British forces in India, and other high officials.